

POETS' CORNER.

THE HARVEST ROSE.

BY J. MCKEAY.

When autumn winged the blast with power
To sweep the bending forest bare,
Deep in the vale I found a flower,
A little rose that lingered there.

Though half its blushing sweets had fled,
Its leaves were edged with winter
Yet still the fragrant odours shed,
—Declared love's emblem was a Rose.

With curious, though with eager haste
I seized the little fading prize,
Then in my bosom fondly pressed,
The faintly blushing floweret lies.

I fled impatient to my fair,
My heart with fond affection glows:
A flower, my love, to deck your hair,
A little modest Harvest Rose.

When first its vivid blooming hue
The amorous zephyrs kissed with pride,
O then, my life, it looked like you,
When first I clasped my blushing bride.

Its fragrance still, though flown the dye,
Is thy pure soul, where friendship glows;
It proves, though love's warm ardour die,
That friendship lives—sweet Harvest Rose.

AN AUTHENTIC NARRATIVE.

Of the loss of the American brig *Commerce*, wrecked on the western coast of Africa, in the month of August, 1815, with the account of the sufferings of her surviving crew, who were enslaved by the wandering Arabs on the great African Desert, or Zahiran; & observations Historical, Geographical, &c. made during the travels of the Author, while a slave to the Arabs, and in the Empire of Morocco. By James Riley, late master and supercargo.

(Continued.)

Believing from our present feelings that we could not survive a day longer without food and no signs of finding any appearance, the last ray of hope faded away, and the gloom of despair, which had at length settled on our hearts, now became visible in every countenance. A little after sunset we saw at a considerable distance in advance, say three or four miles, another sand beach, and I urged myself forward towards it as fast as I could, in hopes of getting some rest by sleeping on the sand for the night, as the ground we were now on was as hard as rock, and covered with small sharp stones. I was encouraging the men to follow on, when Clark, being near, begged me to look towards the beach, saying, "I think I see a light!" it was the light of a fire!

Joy thrilled through my veins like the electric spark; hope again revived within me, and while I showed it to my sinking and despairing crew, I found it communicated to them the same feelings. I told them we must approach the natives, who I could not doubt were encamped for the night, with the greatest caution, for fear of alarming them, and falling a sacrifice to their fury in the confusion we might occasion by our sudden approach in the dark. New life and spirits were diffused into all the crew, and we soon reached a broken place in the bank, through which we descended carefully over the broken rocks, from three to four hundred feet to a sandy spot near its base, where we laid ourselves down for the night, after imploring the protection of Almighty God, and wetting our mouths with a few drops of water still remaining in the bottles.

The sand on which we lay was heated by the sun's rays sufficiently to have roasted eggs, and as we were on the side of a sand hill, we scraped off the top of it for a foot or two deep; when finding the hole more supportable, & the cool breeze of the night setting in, all having excessively fatigued, soon lost their sufferings in the arms of sleep, excepting myself; for my mind had become so excited by alternate hopes and fears and reflections, that I was kept awake through the whole of this long and dismal night. I had determined as soon as day-light appeared, to show ourselves to the natives, and submit either to life or death from their hands. I had no doubt of their being Arabs, who would take and hold us as slaves and though I did not expect myself to live but a short time in that con-

dition, I presumed, some of my fellow sufferers might, and that it was a decree of Providence, which had set this alternative before us.

I no longer felt any fear of death, for that would put a period to my long sufferings: my thirst had become so insupportable, that I could with difficulty breathe, and thought I would be willing to sell my life for one gill of fresh water. My distresses had been so excessive, & my cares and anxieties for my shipmates so great, that all thoughts for my family had been driven almost entirely from my mind. I could not sleep—why was I denied what all around me was enjoying? I shut my eyes, and prayed to be permitted to sleep, if only for one hour, but all in vain. I imagined that the savages, who were near us, would not take ourselves immediately, as it was contrary to the nature of man to slay his fellow creatures; merely from a thirst for blood.

We had no arms to defend ourselves, nor any property to excite their jealousy, revenge, or avarice—we were as miserable as human beings could be, and I hoped we should excite pity, even in the breasts of the savage Arabs. I could hardly yet think, that we were to fall a sacrifice to these people, after the providential escapes we had already experienced; next, the remembrance of my wife and children flitted across my mind, and I was forced to acknowledge, that however bad their situation might be, their real distress could in no wise equal mine, and that I had no right to repine at the dispensations of Providence, since every mortal has his circle wisely laid out by heaven; and nothing but blindness to the future, occasions us to complain of the ways of our creator. If it was the will of the supreme being, that I should again see and embrace my beloved family, it would certainly take place; if not, then power who order all things for the general good, would not forsake them.

This passed away the night, which had seemed to me an endless one. I was impatient to know my fate, and chide the slowness of the sun; my great anxiety, and wakefulness, rendered my thirst doubly painful, and having expended all the urine I had so carefully saved, I had recourse before morning to robbery, and actually stole a sip of the cook's water, which he had made & saved in a bottle; but the only taste it had for me, was a salt one, and it seemed (if possible) to increase my burning thirst. The day at last arrived that was to decide our fate. It was the 10th of September. I awakened my companions, and told them we must now go forward and show ourselves to the natives—that I expected they would seize upon us as slaves, but had strong hopes that some of us would escape with our lives. I also mentioned to them the name of the American consul general at Tangier, and that if it ever was in their power, they must write to him, inform him of the fate of our vessel and her crew: to write if possible, to any christian merchant in Mogadore, Gibraltar, or elsewhere, or to the consul at Algiers, Tunis, or Tripoli, if they should hear those places mentioned, and exhorted all to submit to their fate like men, and be obedient, as policy required, to their future masters. I reminded them again of the former interpositions of Providence in our favour, and said all I could to encourage and persuade them that mildness and submission might save our lives—that resistance and stubbornness would certainly tend to make them more miserable while alive, and probably prompt the natives to murder them out of resentment.

All agreed to go forward, and on rising the little sand hills near us, we discovered a very large drove of camels at about half a mile to the eastward of us, with a large company of people, in a kind of valley formed by a ridge of sand hills on the north next the sea, and by the high land to the south, rising from five to six hundred feet in upright and overhanging cliffs—thru' which a little farther on we saw a deep hollow that appeared to have been formed by some convulsive shock of the earth, which had thus made a sort of passage, through which camels were enabled to pass up & down, but with great difficulty. The Arabs seemed busied in giving water to their camels; they saw us, and in an instant one man and two women ran towards us with great speed. As they came forward, many others of them who saw us, also began to advance: so taking Mr. Williams and Mr. Savage with me, I went for-

ward to meet them, bowed myself to the ground before them, and with signs implored their compassion.

The man was armed with a scimitar, which he held naked in his hand; he ran up to me as if to cut me to the earth: I bowed again in token of submission; and he began without further ceremony, to strip off my clothing, while the women were doing the same to Mr. Williams and Mr. Savage. Thirty or forty more were arriving—some running on foot, with muskets or naked scimitars in their hands; others riding on swift camels, came quickly up—by the time they arrived, however, we were all stripped naked to the skin. Those Arabs near us threw up sand into the air, as the others approached; yelling loudly, which I now learned was a sign of hostility. The one who stripped me had also taken the cook, and had put all the clothing he had stripped from us into a blanket, which he had taken from off his own back for that purpose, leaving himself entirely naked. This bundle he laid on the negro's shoulders, making me understand that myself & the black man belonged to him, and that we must not let the others take the clothes in the bundle under pain of death.

As soon as those on the camels were near, they made them lie down, and jumping off, ran to us with their scimitars naked and ready for action; those on foot now joined these, and a great noise and scuffle ensued. Six or eight of them were about me, one hauling me one way and one another—poor Dick, the black man, partook of the hauling, and each man seemed to insist most strenuously that we belonged of right to him. The one who stripped us, stuck to us as his lawful property, signifying, "you may have the others, these are mine." They cut at each other over my head, and on every side of me with their bright weapons, which fairly whizzed through the air within an inch of my naked body, and on every side of me, now hacking each other's arms apparently to the bone, then laying their ribs bare with gashes, while their heads, hands and thighs, received a full share of cuts and wounds. The blood streaming from every gash, ran down their bodies, colouring and heightening the natural hiccousness of their appearance. I had expected to be cut to pieces in this dreadful affray, but was not injured.

Those who were not actually engaged in combat, seized the occasion, and snatched away the clothing in Dick's bundle, so that when the fight was over, he had nothing left but his master's blanket. This battle and contest lasted for nearly an hour—brother cutting brother, friend slashing friend. Happily for them, their scimitars were not very sharp, so that when they rubbed off the dried blood from their bodies afterwards with sand, their wounds were not so great or deep as I expected they would be, and they did not pay the least apparent attention to them. I had no time to see what they were doing with my shipmates; only myself and the cook were near each other.

The battle over, I saw my distressed companions divided among the Arabs, and all going towards the drove of camels, though they were at some distance from me. We too were delivered into the hands of two old women, who urged us on with sticks towards the camels. Naked and barefoot I could not go very fast, and showed the women my mouth, which was parched white as frost, and without a sign of moisture. When we got near the well, one of the women called for another, who came to us with a wooden bowl, that held, I should guess, about a gallon of water, and setting it on the ground, made myself and Dick kneel down and put our heads into it like camels. I drank I suppose half a gallon, though I had been very particular in cautioning the men against drinking too much at a time, in case they ever came to water. I now experienced how much easier it was to preach than to practise aright.—They then led us to the well, the water of which was nearly as black and disgusting as stale bilge water. A large bowl was now filled with it, and a little sour camel's milk poured from a goat skin into it; this tasted to me delicious, and we all drank of it till our stomachs were literally filled. But this intemperance very soon produced a violent diarrhoea; the consequences of which, however, were not very troublesome, and as our situation was similar to that of a beast being totally divested of clothing,

all we cared about was to stake our unstaying thirst, and replenish our stomachs by repeated draughts of this watery and unwholesome will.

We now begged for something to eat, but these Arabs had nothing for themselves, and seemed very sorry it was not in their power to give us some food. There were at and about the well I should reckon about one hundred persons, men, women and children; and from four to five hundred camels, large and small. The sun beat very fiercely upon us, and our skins seemed actually to fry like meat before the fire. These people continued to draw water for their camels, of which the animals drank enormous quantities. It was about 10 o'clock A. M. as I judged by the sun, when one company of Arabs separated their camels from among the others, took Mr. Williams, Robins, Porter, Hogan, Barret and Burns, mounted them on the bare back of the camels behind the hump, by the hair of which they were obliged to steady themselves and hold on, without knowing whether they were going, or if I should ever see them again. I took an affectionate leave of them. Their Arab masters permitted me to do without interruption, and could no help showing, at this scene, that the feelings of humanity were not totally extinguished in their bosoms. They then hurried them off and ascending through the hollow or crevice towards the face of the desert, they were all soon out of sight.

There remained with the party to which I belonged, Mr. Savage, Clark, Horace, and Dick the cook. Mr. Savage was permitted to retain an old Guernsey frock, and part of a pair of trousers about his middle, which they had not pulled off; but the rest of us were entirely stripped. Mr. Savage, Clark, and Horace were forced to assist in drawing water for the camels, until all had drunk their fill; then having filled with water a considerable number of goat skins, which had been stripped off these animals over the neck, leaving them, otherwise, as whole as when on their backs, they slung them by the skin of their legs on each side of the camels, after tying up the neck to prevent the water escaping, by means of a small rope which they fastened to the fore legs of the skin to keep it up. They next put on their baskets for the women and children to ride in; these were made of camel's skin, and fixed in such a manner with a wooden rim around them, over which the skin was sewed, that three or four could sit in them with perfect safety and ease, only taking care to preserve their balance. These baskets were fastened under the camel's bellies with a strong rope. I was obliged to assist in putting them on, and was in hopes of being permitted to ride in one of them, but that was not the intention of my master. I, as well as those who were with me, had drank a great deal of water, while we were at the well, which had passed off, as before observed, without doing us any injury. We had been furnished also with a little milk in our water two or three times, which gave some relief to our hunger. The men had saddles just large enough for their seat; the pads are made of flat pieces of woody a piece of the same rises in front, being about the length, breadth, and thickness of a man's hand; an iron rim, or a strong wooden one, goes round on each side, forming a circle covered with a piece of skin stretched and sewed taut over it. The saddle is then placed on the camel's back before the hump, and fastened tight by a rope under his belly. Thus prepared we began to mount the sand hills and to get up through the gully. We were forced to walk & to drive the camels and keep them together, whilst the sand was so soft and yielding, that we sunk into it every step nearly to our knees. The blazing heat of the sun's rays darting on our naked bodies, and reflected from the sand we waded through; the sharp pointed craggy rocks and stones that cut our feet and legs to the bone, in addition to our excessive weakness which the dysentery had increased, rendered our passage up through this chasm or hollow much more severe than any thing of the kind we had before undergone, and nearly deprived us of life. For my own part I thought I must have died before I could reach the summit, and was obliged to stop in the sand, until by an application of a stick to my sore back by our drivers I was forced up to its level; & there they made the camels lie down and rest.

(This concludes the extracts.)

State of Maryland.

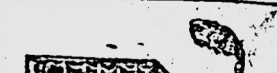
On application by petition of Charles Robinson, administrator of John Johnson, late of A. A. County, deceased, it is ordered that he give the notice required by law, for the exhibition of their claims against the said deceased, and that the same be published once in each week, for the space of six successive weeks, in the Maryland Gazette, and Political Intelligencer. John Gasaway, Reg. Wilt. A. A. County.

Notice is hereby given.

That the subscriber of Anne Arundel county, hath obtained from the orphans court of Anne Arundel county, in Maryland, letters of administration on the personal estate of Zachariah Gray, late of Anne Arundel county, deceased. All persons having claims against the said deceased, are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereon, to the subscriber, at or before the first day of January next, the day if otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of the said estate. Given under my hand this 9th day of September, 1817.

Charles Robinson, admr.

Sept. 18.



THE STEAM BOAT.

SURPRISE,

JONATHAN SPENCER, Master.

Propelled by an Engine on the Battery Motion, moves with more ease and swiftness than any Steam Boat in the United States. To guard against the accident of boilers bursting, the boilers of this Boat will be proved every month to bear double the pressure at which they are worked.—She will leave COMMERCIAL STREET WHARF every MONDAY and THURSDAY, at 8 o'clock in the morning, for ANNAPOLIS and EASTON, via Alder River Ferry; will leave EASTON every TUESDAY and FRIDAY, at 8 o'clock for ANNAPOLIS and BALTIMORE. She will leave Commercial street wharf every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, for CENTREVILLE, at 6 o'clock in the morning, and leave Centreville at 12 o'clock the same days for Baltimore.—Will take on board and land passengers to suit their convenience on each route. Will commence running on Wednesday for Centreville, and continue as above.

For passage apply to the Captain on board, or to

George Stiles & Son, Btlw.

Sept. 8.

State of Maryland, se.

Anne Arundel county, Orphans Court, September 9, 1817.

On application by petition of Charles Robinson, administrator of John Johnson, late of A. A. County, deceased, it is ordered that he give the notice required by law for creditors to exhibit their claims against the said deceased, and that the same be published once in each week, for the space of six successive weeks, in the Maryland Gazette and Political Intelligencer. John Gasaway, Reg. Wilt. A. A. County.

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Charles Robinson, admr.

Sept. 18.

FOR SALE.

I will sell at Private Sale, that Tract of LAND known by the name of BROWN'S PURCHASE, lying in the Patuxent, and containing 261 acres, more or less. It is deemed unnecessary to give a description of the said Land, as it is presumed that all who wish to purchase will view the said Land, which they may do by calling on John Davis, who resides on the said Land, or to Messrs. Warfield & Ridgely, or the subscriber.

Absalom Ridgely,

Annapolis, August 12.

TO HIRE.

A FEMALE SERVANT. Who is an excellent Washer & Ironer, and can be highly recommended for honesty and sobriety. She will only be hired in Annapolis or its immediate vicinity. Enquire at this office. Annapolis, Aug. 28.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

[VOL. LXXV.]

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED

BY

JONAS GREEN,

CRUICK-STREET, ANNAPOLIS.

Price—Three Dollars per Annum.

Public Sale.

By virtue of a deed of trust from Richard H. Harwood, esq. of the city of Annapolis, the subscribers will proceed to sell the following property, to wit:

Friday the third day of October.

At the hour of 11 in the morning, if it be not the next fair day, they will sell on the premises, the plantation on the said Richard H. Harwood, lately resided, on Elk-Ridge, in Anne Arundel county, about three miles above M. C. Tavern, containing about 412 1/2 acres of land, together with all the crop thereon; the roads from M. C. Tavern to the country, and from Queen's mill to Baltimore, pass through this land. The best judges are of opinion that the land is capable of being made equal to any of the Elk-Ridge lands. There are on it a good dwelling house, and convenient out-houses, a garden, a spring of most excellent water very near the house, and an ice house. At the same time they will offer five negro men, four women, three boys, and six girls, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, and farming utensils.

On Friday the 10th of October,

at the hour of 11 in the morning, if it be not the next fair day, they will offer on the premises, a tract of land called "Besenton," being in Anne Arundel county, which Samuel C. Watkins, at present resides, containing about 150 acres. This land lies on the road from South-River Church to the lower part of the county, and is very susceptible of improvement.

And on Friday the 17th day of October,

at the hour of 11 in the morning, if it be not the next fair day, they will offer on the premises, parts of several tracts of lands, the whole being in one body, and containing about 416 1/4 acres, being in Charles county, about 8 or 10 miles below Piscataway.

The above property or any part of it, will be disposed of at private sale if application be made in time. To the purchasers of personal property a credit of four months will be given for all sums not under twenty dollars. The terms to the purchasers of land will be very accommodating, and will be made known on the day of sale.

Henry H. Harwood.

Richd. Harwood, of Thos.

Annapolis, Aug. 5, 1817.

The Editors of the Federal Gazette and the American of Baltimore, are requested to insert the above advertisement twice a week until the day of sale, and forward their accounts to this office.

20 Dollars Reward.

The above reward will be paid for lodging in gaol, or bringing home negro Sophia, a bright mulatto woman, about eighteen years old, well grown, she has large grey eyes, and her hair rather light. The above woman ran away from Col. Waring of Mount Pleasant, about the 15th June, (of whom I purchased her.) She has been heard of in the neighbourhood of Mr. William Tillard's near Pig-Point, where it is supposed she has been waiting to get a passage in the packet to Baltimore. She has acquaintances in Baltimore, Washington, Annapolis, and Norfolk. Her clothing not recollected, excepting a green stuff frock.

Wm. B. Beanes.

Upper Marlboro' Sept. 26.

54

Land for Sale.

The subscriber will offer at public sale, on Wednesday the 15th October next, if fair, if not, on the next fair day, a Tract of Land,

Containing about 250 acres, situate in Anne Arundel county, 9 miles from Annapolis and 5 from Queen Ann. There are about 60 acres of this land well timbered with chestnut, hickory, oak, &c. of the remainder, a considerable part is meadow land. Clover and plaster have been used with success. On it are several never failing springs of good water. The improvements are a small framed dwelling house, kitchen, meat house, &c. with two excellent tobacco houses. Any person wishing to view the property will call on Mr. Sheekles, manager, living on the farm, who will make known the terms of sale.

William G. Sanders.

Sept. 4.

N. B. At the same time will be offered stock and plantation utensils.

W. G. S.

100 Dollars.

Ranaway from the

14th day of last month

named SOLOMON

years of age, about 5

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